

### Remarks

Claims 1-37, 116-119, 122, 123, 125-130, 132 and 133 are pending and examined in the Office Action that was mailed March 22, 2006. All of the pending claims are rejected. Examiner has indicated that claims 33-36, 116-119, 122 and 123 are free from the prior art. Claims 1, 33-35, 123, and 133 have been cancelled. Claims 2-4, 6-9, 11, 27, 30, 32, 36-37, 122, 125-130, and 132 have been amended. New claim 134 has been added. Applicant respectfully submits that no new matter has been added by these amendments. Each of the objections and rejections raised in the Office Action is addressed individually below.

### Claim Objections

Examiner states that should claims 33, 34 and 35 be found allowable, claims 116, 118 and 119 will be objected to under 37 C.F.R. § 1.75 as being substantial duplicate thereof. Applicant disagrees with Examiner that claims 33, 34 and 35 are the substantial duplicate of claims 116, 118 and 119. However, in order to further prosecution, Applicant has chosen to cancel claims 33-35.

Applicant has also amended claim 122 to correct any informalities.

Applicant respectfully submits that the claim objections be withdrawn.

### Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 112

Claims 1-37, 126-130, and 132 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the written description requirement. Examiner states that adequate support is not found in the specification for claim 1, reciting "the stamp exhibits convexity that does not result from a surface texture or pattern." Applicant disagrees with Examiner's rejection. However, in order to further prosecution, Applicant has cancelled claim 1.

Examiner has rejected claim 132 as indefinite because the Examiner states that "a stamp being a structure having one opening" does not have support in the specification. Applicant respectfully submits, as it did in its prior Response, that the specification explicitly supports a stamp that is a structure having one opening at page 12, line 15 and at Figure 2. Page 12, line 15 states: "For example, *the stamp* may be tubular, having two openings into the lumen, or balloon-like, *having one opening*." Figure 2 clearly depicts a stamp structure having one opening.

Examiner further rejects claims 1-37, 116-130, 132 and 133 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite. Claims 1, 33-35, 123 and 133 have been cancelled,

therefore Applicant will address Examiner's rejections with respect to claims 2-32, 36-37, 116-122, 125-130, and 132.

Examiner rejects claim 116, stating that it is unclear as to the part of the lumen that is the stamping surface, and how modulating to reduce cross-sectional dimensions of the lumen result in contact between the cross-sectional dimensions of the lumen results in contact between a stamping surface and a substrate. Applicant has amended claim 116 and added new claim 134 to further define that which the Applicant claims. Applicant respectfully submits that the claims are now clear as to how the lumen, stamp with stamping surface, and substrate relate to one another, and how they come into contact with one another to pattern a surface.

Examiner continues to assert that claim 116 is unclear as to the structure that constitutes a portal providing communication between the lumen and the exterior of the stamp. Applicant again states that no more is required to describe the stamp. The claims encompass any stamp with a portal that provides communication between the exterior of the stamp. The precise location and structure of the portal is irrelevant the invention as claimed. Applicant, as his own lexicographer, uses the term "portal" to describe any mechanism or structure that provides communication between the lumen and the exterior of the stamp. One of ordinary skill in the art would understand the scope of the term "portal." For example, a portal providing communication between the lumen and the exterior of the stamp may be a pin-sized hole through which fluid passes, or it could be a long, stiff tube connected to some device exterior to the stamp (e.g., a vacuum). The location of the portal could be anywhere on the stamp. Applicant respectfully reiterates that no more is necessary to describe the portal.

Examiner rejects claims 126-130 and 132 as unclear as to how the stamp structure required by the claims will function in the method of claim 116, as to the part of the structure that is the stamping surface, and the way in which this part will contact the substrate by modulating dimensions. Applicant has amended claim 116 from which 126-130 and 132 depend. Applicant submits that it the shape of the stamp, and therefore the shape the surface of the stamp (in other words, "the stamping surface"), does not change the method of claim 116. For example, the stamp could be a sphere (and therefore could have a spherical stamping surface). The substrate (which could also be a sphere of dimensions smaller than the stamp) is placed within the sphere. The first lumen decreases the dimensions of the spherical stamp (and stamping surface) to come into contact with the substrate, thereby patterning the substrate. This can be true for a stamp of any shape.

In light of the above, Applicant respectfully requests that these § 112 rejections be reconsidered and withdrawn.

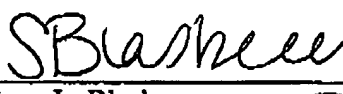
Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 102 and § 103

Examiner has stated that claim 116 is free from prior art. All claims have been amended to depend from claim 116, or its dependent claims. Therefore, Applicant respectfully submits that none of the references cited by Examiner disclose, teach or suggest, either alone or in combination, the present invention as claimed, and Applicant respectfully requests that these rejections be reconsidered and withdrawn.

Conclusion

Based on the arguments presented above, it is submitted that the pending claims, including the newly added claim, are allowable over the art of record. Applicant would like to thank the Examiner for his thoughtful comments and careful consideration of the case and requests favorable action. Please charge any fees as may be required, or credit any overpayments, to our Deposit Account No. 03-1721.

Respectfully submitted,

  
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